

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**June 8, 2020**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Manoj Gangwar, Paige Lewis, Rob Pudim, Katja Stokley, Sue Ahlberg, Jeff Ellenbogen, Dan Ohlsen, Council Liaison Aren Rodriguez

Staff Present: Jeff Friesner, David Bell, Dan Wolford and Nicola Davidson. Steve Ransweiler (6:40pm)

**2. Chair Reminder to the Public**

Katja Stokley reminded the public watching how they could participate during the Public Invited to be heard sessions.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

A motion by Katja Stokley to approve the June 8, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda passed unanimously.

**4. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes**

A motion by Katja Stokley to approve the March 9, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes. Dan Ohlsen and Jeff Ellenbogen abstained since they were not present. The motion passed 5-0.

**5. Public Invited to be heard**

Session opened – no one present – session closed.

**6. New Business**

**A. Modification to the Open Space Disposition Ordinance – Dan Wolford, Land Program Administrator**

Staff will take this item to city council July 7<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the language modification to the ordinance is to allow the City more flexibility to dispose of elements of Open Space property that would be more beneficial to the Open Space Program. Examples of this are the 3 unused water taps on current properties. Any sale of a property fee would still retain the conservation easement and safeguard the initial intent of the original acquisition.

Dan Ohlsen asked for clarification of the term fee. A fee is all the rights associated with a property, the right to develop/modify that property/land for whatever purpose the owner needs.

Rob Pudim noted his approval of the ordinance despite generally being opposed to the sale of any open space; felt this is a good alternative.

Sue Ahlberg asked about resale of rights by the buyer and their ability to then use the property for other uses such as housing developments or fracking sites etc. Will the city have any say in future use of property? Dan Wolford explained the city would still keep its conservation easement rights.

Paige Lewis asked what opportunity could the Board have to strengthen the original Ordinance and could this be done at the same time as the modification? Dan noted this could be done separately and was certainly a possibility. This will be discussed at a future PRAB meeting, to be determined with Paige.

Katja Stokley asked what argument would there be against the modification. Dan noted none other than past interpretations of the ordinance by city attorneys.

A motion by Paige Lewis for PRAB to recommend city council proceed with the modification to the Open Space Disposition Ordinance as outlined by Dan Wolford. Sue Ahlberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **7. Items from Staff**

Jeff Freisner outlined the reopening plans for Recreation that would go to Harold's Leadership Team on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> for approval. All special events will be cancelled through the end of July, except the 4<sup>th</sup> July fireworks, still to be determined. A notice to the public will go out this week. Recreation centers, Centennial pool and athletic fields will open to the public beginning 6/15 with limitations, a reservation system and adhering to all Covid 19 guidelines including contact tracing. Additional programs will open as possible thereafter. Sunset Pool will open week of 6/22 with limitations and open swim available immediately. Memorial Building will continue to offer childcare and be open for limited public use.

David Bell gave update on Parks, outlining that under COVID 19 parks, outdoor trails and open spaces are being used fully by the public. Union swim beach was closed due to non-compliance of social distancing by the public and will remain so until further notice. Illegally parked cars at Button Rock Reserve due to increased use now necessitate two police officers being stationed there. Parks will be closing the bridge at Dickens Nature Area to ensure public safety at this time. David will make the water flow charts link more accessible for the PRAB board to see. Steve Ransweiler noted they are also working on signage to make tubing at Dickens safer. McKintosh Lake continues to be a challenge given increased usage and no ability to prevent use. David noted this current situation is helping them think about what it will look like in the future and how Parks can manage this going forward. Dan Ohlsen noted the sprinklers at Carr Park needed adjusting and Steve would take care of this.

Paige Lewis thanked Parks and Recreation for all they are doing during this time, and how she has renewed value for her local park, thanked all for hanging in there.

Conversations are ongoing with the Creekside BMX group and Steve Ransweiler would notify the Board when a public hearing was planned.

Dan Wolford noted that surveillance for West Nile virus would begin next week 6/15.

## **8. Items from Board**

Aren Rodriguez thanked everyone for their input and answering his and the public's questions tonight.

Paige Lewis would like to know when the Board would hear about the budget impacts of Covid 19. Parks and Recreation will give an update when they are able to do so.

Sue Ahlberg thanked the departments and requested to receive updates, even when meetings are not possible. She appreciates more interaction and communication. Also, asked if it is still on agenda to have a public discussion of a new pool facility, noting the School District are planning a pool. Jeff committed to send updates.

Katja Stokley thanked all of the hard working staff at Parks and Recreation for all they do.

Dan Ohlsen asked if next month's meeting was planned yet and would it be on Zoom? He will be travelling but will have internet. Jeff noted no plan at this time but there would be a meeting if there were any items that needed action like today's Ordinance item.

## **9. Public Invited to be heard.**

Session opened – no one present – session closed.

## **10. Adjournment – 8:11pm**

A motion by Jeff Ellenbogen to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.